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Congress of the United States  
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COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERTERRORISM,  
CHAIRMAN  
  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS RESPONSE AND  
RECOVERY  
  
COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
HEALTH  
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

July 1, 2020

The Honorable Bill de Blasio  
Mayor of New York City  
Office of the Mayor  
City Hall Office  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

Youth sports organizations and teams are just beginning to recover after recent state-issued guidance on restarting their operations. As New York City prepares to enter Phase 3 on July 6, I urge you and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation to support our youth leagues and families as teams begin playing again by proactively reaching out to teams to ensure that permits are in order, and that leagues and organizations are aware and able to comply with the new guidance in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic.

Little League and youth sports are the cultural bedrock of Staten Island and South Brooklyn. As we continue to bend the curve in New York City, the families in my district are thrilled that their kids can get out and play again. We should not take this major step for granted--what states like Florida and Arizona have taught us is that we must remain vigilant, especially when it comes to our youngest and most vulnerable populations. While the Governor's "Interim Guidance for Sports and Recreation During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency" laid out commonsense guidelines, our leagues and youth sports organizations must comply with a range of duties including screening, testing, tracking, tracing, ensuring that PPE, hygiene, and disinfectant standards are met, along with other requirements. We want to set up our youth sports teams for success, not failure. I respectfully request that the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation make sure that teams with current and past permits are prepared to begin playing again, and have access to the resources they need to ensure player safety. The Parks Department has these contacts, and can work with other departments in your administration to play a role in further protecting our city and children.

Our government exists to support the people--it's as simple as that. If City Hall takes this extra step ahead of July 6, our parents and youth sports teams will be more prepared to comply

with guidelines, and our children will be better equipped to actually get their summer and childhoods back. The days leading up to Phase 3 are critical, and we can show the rest of the country that we can get our kids back on the field responsibly. I look forward to hearing from you on this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Max', followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that extends to the right.

Max Rose  
Member of Congress